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The ACPL 34th Annual Poetry Contest

That's What Friends Are For



September 12–November 7, 2016

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library, Children's Services and the Teens Department.



**Allen County
Public Library**

900 Library Plaza
Fort Wayne, IN 46802
www.acpl.info
(260) 421-1200



Teens

Allen County Public Library
900 Library Plaza, Fort Wayne, IN 46802
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2016 Poetry Contest
Allen County Public Library

That's What Friends Are For

Thank you to the more than eight hundred children
and teens who submitted poems for this contest.

Thank you also to our judges:

Helen Presser

Cindy Steury

Bob Jones

Fran Hewett

Sarah Sandman

Susi Jones

Mark Hewett

Tammy Miller

Canterbury Lower School

Huntington University

Retired Teacher

Croninger Elementary

Indiana University Purdue University, Fort Wayne

Heritage Elementary

Croninger Elementary

Retired Teacher

Mary R. Voors

Children's Services
(260) 421-1220

Peggy Vaniman

Teens Department
(260) 421-1255



Allen County Public Library
900 Library Plaza
Fort Wayne, IN 46802
(260) 421-1200

Winners by Grade

Grade	Place	Name of Poem	First Name	Last Name	School
Kindergarten	1st Place	That's What Friends Are For	Henry	Liu	Canterbury School
Kindergarten	2nd Place	Good Friends	Brooklyn	Chenoweth	Canterbury School
Kindergarten	3rd Place	Playful Friends	Jenna	Inayat	Canterbury School
Kindergarten	Honorable Mention	Friend Fun	Kinsey	Presser	Canterbury School
Grade 1	1st Place	Best Friends	Mira	Yarram	Canterbury School
Grade 1	2nd Place	Friends	Melissa	Tan	Canterbury School
Grade 1	3rd Place	Friendship	Manhattan	Morrissey	Canterbury School
Grade 1	Honorable Mention	Best Friends	Ellie	Yaruchy	Canterbury School
Grade 2	1st Place	My Friends Are Special	Samantha	Vance	Haley School
Grade 2	2nd Place	Friends	Gavin	Clark	Central Lutheran
Grade 2	3rd Place	When We Disagree	Brooklyn	Deane	Canterbury School
Grade 2	Honorable Mention	untitled	Hannah Grace	Bryan	Emmanuel -St. Michael Lutheran School
Grade 3	1st Place	My Best Friend	Trinity	Kimmel	Central Lutheran
Grade 3	2nd Place	Together	Elise	Estabrook	Estabrook Homeschool
Grade 3	3rd Place	That's What Friends Are For	Zanaiya	Limzerwala	Canterbury School
Grade 3	Honorable Mention	Best Friend	Garrett	Hohenbrink	Central Lutheran
Grade 4	1st Place	A Good Friend	Naomi	Maurer	Homeschool
Grade 4	2nd Place	How Not to be a Friend	Isaac	Maurer	Homeschool
Grade 4	3rd Place	Why Do You Have Friends	Lauren	Biggs	Canterbury School
Grade 4	Honorable Mention	untitled	Jeremiah	Thom	Holy Cross Lutheran
Grade 5	1st Place	That's What Friends Are For	Violet	Park	St. Paul's Lutheran School
Grade 5	2nd Place	Who Would You Go To?	Ana	Bierbaum	Canterbury Middle School
Grade 5	3rd Place	True Friends	Eliana	Ward	Lutheran South Unity School
Grade 5	Honorable Mention	Friendship	Amia	Carter	Canterbury Middle School
Grade 6	1st Place	untitled	Keegan	Headlee	Memorial Park Middle School
Grade 6	2nd Place	Come What May	Madeline	Phuong	Canterbury Middle School
Grade 6	3rd Place	Together	Molly	Langton	Memorial Park Middle School
Grade 6	Honorable Mention	Bacon	Ariela	Dawson	Memorial Park Middle School
Grade 7	1st Place	That's What Friends Are For	Maysen	Dahlenburg	Concordia Elementary
Grade 7	2nd Place	untitled	Brooklyn-Kai	Xayarath	Memorial Park Middle School
Grade 7	3rd Place	Friends are...	Laura	Burris	Emmaus Lutheran

Grade 7	3rd Place	untitled	Amelia	Elliott	Emmaus Lutheran
Grade 7	Honorable Mention	I Hope You Find Someone...	Arayana	Chaffin	Central Lutheran
Grade 7	Honorable Mention	Best Friends	Nariyah	Mendez	Concordia Elementary
=====					
Grade 8	1st Place	untitled	Ashley	Bishop	Jefferson Middle School
Grade 8	2nd Place	That's What Friends Are For	Riley	Nower	Wyneken Memorial Lutheran School
Grade 8	3rd Place	That's What Friends Are For	Atalia	Mendez	St. Paul's Lutheran School
Grade 8	Honorable Mention	She Is	Morgan	Aldrich	St. Paul's Lutheran School
=====					
Grade 9	1st Place	A Friend in Need	Nathan	Phuong	Canterbury High School
Grade 9	2nd Place	Friends	Julia	Weeks	North Side High School
Grade 9	3rd Place	What Friends Are For	Isaac	Taylor	Northside High School
Grade 9	Honorable Mention	That's What Friends Are For	Daniesha	Houston	Ward
=====					
Grade 10	1st Place	friend	Zoe	Moore	Homestead High School
Grade 10	2nd Place	untitled	Thomas	Wegmann	John Young Preparatory High School
Grade 10	3rd Place	Strangers to Friends	Sherdell	Baker	New Haven High School
Grade 10	Honorable Mention	What Are Friends For	Jessica	Strickler	North Side High School
=====					
Grade 11	1st Place	Friendships	Marco	Hernandez	North Side High School
Grade 11	2nd Place	Real Friends	Saleh	Ali	North Side High School
Grade 11	3rd Place	What Are Friends For	Adriana	VanPatten	North Side High School
Grade 11	Honorable Mention	untitled	Libni	Sedano	South Side High School
=====					
Grade 12	2nd Place	That's What Friends Are For	Jacqueline	Bush	North Side High School
Grade 12	3rd Place	Friendship	John	Houser	North Side High School
Grade 12	1st Place	What are friends for	Flynn	Grayson Catey	North Side High School

Winners by School

Grade	Place	Name of Poem	First Name	Last Name	School
Kindergarten	1st Place	That's What Friends Are For	Henry	Liu	Canterbury Lower School
Kindergarten	2nd Place	Good Friends	Brooklyn	Chenoweth	Canterbury Lower School
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Kindergarten	Honorable Mention	Friend Fun	Kinsey	Presser	Canterbury Lower School
Grade 1	1st Place	Best Friends	Mira	Yarram	Canterbury Lower School
Grade 1	2nd Place	Friends	Melissa	Tan	Canterbury Lower School
Grade 1	3rd Place	Friendship	Manhattan	Morrissey	Canterbury Lower School
Grade 1	Honorable Mention	Best Friends	Ellie	Yaruchy	Canterbury Lower School
Grade 2	3rd Place	When We Disagree	Brooklyn	Deane	Canterbury Lower School
Grade 3	3rd Place	That's What Friends Are For	Zanaiya	Limzerwala	Canterbury Lower School
Grade 4	3rd Place	Why Do You Have Friends	Lauren	Biggs	Canterbury Lower School
Grade 5	2nd Place	Who Would You Go To?	Ana	Bierbaum	Canterbury Middle School
Grade 5	Honorable Mention	Friendship	Amia	Carter	Canterbury Middle School
Grade 6	2nd Place	Come What May	Madeline	Phuong	Canterbury Middle School
Grade 9	1st Place	A Friend in Need	Nathan	Phuong	Canterbury High School
Grade 2	2nd Place	Friends	Gavin	Clark	Central Lutheran
Grade 3	1st Place	My Best Friend	Trinity	Kimmel	Central Lutheran
Grade 3	Honorable Mention	Best Friend	Garrett	Hohenbrink	Central Lutheran
Grade 7	Honorable Mention	I Hope You Find Someone...	Arayana	Chaffin	Central Lutheran
Grade 7	1st Place	That's What Friends Are For	Maysen	Dahlenburg	Concordia Elementary
Grade 7	Honorable Mention	Best Friends	Nariyah	Mendez	Concordia Elementary
Grade 2	Honorable Mention	untitled	Hannah Grace	Bryan	Emmanuel -St. Michael Lutheran School
Grade 7	3rd Place	Friends are...	Laura	Burris	Emmaus Lutheran
Grade 7	3rd Place	untitled	Amelia	Elliott	Emmaus Lutheran
Grade 3	2nd Place	Together	Elise	Estabrook	Estabrook Homeschool
Grade 2	1st Place	My Friends Are Special	Samantha	Vance	Haley School
Grade 4	Honorable Mention	untitled	Jeremiah	Thom	Holy Cross Lutheran
Grade 4	1st Place	A Good Friend	Naomi	Maurer	Homeschool

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Grade 10	2nd Place	untitled	Thomas	Wegmann	John Young Preparatory High School
Grade 5	3rd Place	True Friends	Eliana	Ward	Lutheran South Unity School
Grade 6	1st Place	untitled	Keegan	Headlee	Memorial Park Middle School
Grade 6	3rd Place	Together	Molly	Langton	Memorial Park Middle School
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Grade 8	Honorable Mention	She Is	Morgan	Aldrich	St. Paul's Lutheran School
Grade 9	Honorable Mention	That's What Friends Are For	Daniesha	Houston	Ward
Grade 8	2nd Place	That's What Friends Are For	Riley	Nower	Wyneken Memorial Lutheran School

Winners by Poet's Last Name

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Grade 11	2nd Place	Real Friends	Saleh	Ali	North Side High School
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Kindergarten-1st Place
Henry Liu

Canterbury School

That's What Friends Are For

Friends are helpful
Friends are kind
Friends play checkers
Friends play chess
Playful friends are the best!

Kindergarten-2nd Place
Brooklyn Chenoweth

Canterbury School

Good Friends

Friends care
Friends share
Good friends
Are always there!

Kindergarten-3rd Place
Jenna Inayat

Canterbury School

Playful Friends

We swing
We climb
We skip
We hide
We jump
We run
We ride
We slide
Having fun
Is number one!
Recess Friends

Kindergarten-Honorable Mention
Kinsey Presser

Canterbury School

Friend Fun

Writing
Reading
Playing
Swinging
Making Art
Dressing Up
Friends are fun!

First Grade-1st Place
Mira Yarram

Canterbury School

Best Friends

Kind and gentle
Sharing too
Lots of things
Fun to do
Friendship is the number one.
Best friends are really fun.

First Grade-2nd Place
Melissa Tan

Canterbury School

Friends

Helpful friends
Loving friends
Truthful friends
Gentle friends
Kind friends
Peaceful friends
And most of all
be a friend to all

**First Grade-3rd Place
Manhattan Morrissey**

Canterbury School

Friendship

Old friends
New friends
Weird friends
cool friends
fun friends
crazy friends
Joyful friends.
pack of friends!

**First Grade-Honorable Mention
Ellie Yaruchy**

Canterbury School

BEST friends

Happy friends
Little friends
Big friends
Fun friends
Good friends
Loving friends
Wondering friends
Friends for life!

Second Grade-1st Place
Samantha Vance

Haley School

My Friends Are Special

My friends are special.
We do sidewalk chalk.
We talk together.
We enjoy sleepovers together.
We make things together.
We play with dolls together.
We play spies together.
We play our tablets together.
Friends are to play with.
My friends are special.

Second Grade-2nd Place
Gavin Clark

Central Lutheran School

Friends

Friends are fun
Reece likes to run
I like to run, too
Every day we play ball
Now the teacher calls
Day is done
So much fun

When We Disagree

I like 1
You like 2
I like orange
You like blue.
I like dogs
You like cats
I like reading
You like writing.
But...we can still
Be friends!

Second Grade-Honorable Mention
Hannah Grace Bryan

Emmanuel-St. Michael

Friends are faithful and never rotten.
They help you be nice when you have forgotten.

Naomi is sweet,
She would never cheat.

Friends help you when you fall.
They always come when you call.

Caroline and Ella are smart,
They could never be apart.

Friends love when you smile.
They wish it would last a while.

Violet is kind,
She always uses her mind.

Friends make your life fun.
A girl can't have just one!

Third Grade-1st Place
Trinity Kimmel

Central Lutheran School

My Best Friend

She's the first friend I ever made.
She wears her hair in a braid.
She used to live across the street from me.
We love to play tag, pet dogs and climb in trees.
I had to move last summer.
She thought that was a real bummer.
We didn't know when we would see each other again.
But guess who's spending the night this weekend!

Third Grade-2nd Place
Elise Estabrook

Estabrook Homeschool

Together

We laugh and play.
We dance and sing.
We help each other.
We have fun, too.
We climb trees together.
We ride bikes and
We read together.
Can you guess who we are?
Friends!

Third Grade-3rd Place
Zanaiya Limzerwala

Canterbury School

That's What Friends are For

I ran into a fierce cat.
My friend took care of that.
I almost stepped on a thumbtack.
But she moved it out of the way.
Then she looked at me as if to say...
"Well that is that."
Now I know wherever I hide...
My friend will be there standing right
by my side.

Third Grade-Honorable Mention
Garrett Hohenbrink

Central Lutheran School

Best Friend

Best friend
Funny
Laughing
High five
Plays baseball
Same size

A Good Friend

A friend cannot be a friend unless you have fun with them.

But that is not all a friend is for.

If you find that you need help,

A real friend does not walk out the door.

A friend laughs with you when you are happy,

And lifts your heart when you are sad.

A friend tells you things you need to hear,

And stands up for you when things are bad.

A friend is someone you can talk with,

And someone you can listen to.

And if you have a problem,

A friend will listen to you.

No matter what happens,

A friend will always care.

Even when there is little,

A friend has love to share.

How Not to be a Friend

Always quarrel, argue and fight.
Always scream and hit and bite.
Do not let him ever rest.
Jump on him at night.

Always play pranks to irritate.
When you meet, show up late.
If you are going fishing
Make sure to steal all his bait.

When he tries to talk, yell.
Don't listen to what he wants to tell.
Tell him that he's wrong.
Remind him of the time he fell.

Ignore him.
Bore him.
Break his things.
Step on him.

If you do this, I guarantee
A friend is not what you will be.
The one you do all this to
Will call you an enemy.

Why Do You Have Friends?

Why,
do you,
have those people who,
are always
there for you?
They're there
When you're suffering,
They're there
when you're imprudent.
They will help you
study,
and encourage you
to spread your wings.
They will always
be your friend,
even in a fight,
and when you're
in darkness,
they will bring you
into light,
laugh with you,
play with you,
and share secrets with you.
Try to stick together
like glue,
because
you will need that
special person
by you.

**Fourth Grade-Honorable Mention
Jeremiah Thom**

Holy Cross Lutheran School

Friendship is like a furnace on a cold winter day;

Friendship is more than fun,

It is fun for a lifetime.

Friendship is like a key to a broken door of loneliness.

Friendship is what ties people together.

Forever.

Until life everlasting.

**Fifth Grade-1st Place
Violet Park**

St. Paul's Lutheran School

That's What Friends Are

If you were the head

I'd be the hat

If you were the baseball

I'd be the bat

If you were the yarn ball

I'd be the cat

That's what friends are

If you were the heart

I'd be the arrow

If you were the seeds

I'd be the sparrow

That's what friends are

If you were the road

I'd be the car

That's what friends are

Fifth Grade-2nd Place
Ana Bierbaum

Canterbury Middle School

Who Would You Go To?

When you're feeling down,
Who would you go to?
If you're just plain old sad,
Who would you go to?
If you need someone to cheer you up,
Who would you go to?
Me?
Who would I go to?
That's easy,
My best friend

Fifth Grade-3rd Place
Eliana Ward

Lutheran South Unity School

True Friends

The sky shone sapphire blue,
the songs we sang were true

Of the cows who jumped over the moon,
and the dish who ran away with the spoon

We sang together in the round,
we sang together, heads bowed

We let our imaginations soar
like birds, we flew about some more

Around the hive,
around we glide

Under the branch,
we pranced, we danced

Oh, how we jumped and shouted hurrah!
Oh, how we ran and laughed—ha, ha!

We played games in the bright sun,
we splashed in puddles, oh what fun!

That's what friends are for,
I could not want for more.

Fifth Grade-Honorable Mention
Amia Carter

Canterbury Middle School

Friendship

I share with you
Not just the most awesome selfies
But also some of my life's
Most precious memories
Our friendship runs deep
Right through my heart and soul
You have no idea how important
In my life, is your role
I don't care about anything else
Other than having you around
Because only your smiles have
The power to wipe away my frown...
But that's what friends are for

Sixth Grade-1st Place
Keegan Headlee

Memorial Park Middle School

There's a time for love,
There's a time for hatred.
There's a time to hug,
And there's a time to care.
No matter what, friends
are always there.

That's What Friends
Are For.

There's a time to play,
And there's a time to get work done.
There's a time for silence,
And time to laugh.
There's a time to hold on,
And there's a time to let it go.

Friends are always there,

And that's what
We're for.

Come What May

Never
The odd one out
Always there
Through thick or thin
By my side
She appears
Every time
I close my eyes

Protects me from
The hurtful
Words
Whispers
Secrets
Teaching me
The bliss
Of ignorance

Never hides
Behind the clouds
Even when
The sun departs
The weather sours
And rain
Pours down
And drenches me

When I tumble
She lends
A hand
And brushes off
The dirt
And pain
To help me
Up again

Always there
'Til the end
No matter what
Stands with me
Hand in hand
Come what may
Even if she's my
Imaginary friend

Sixth Grade-3rd Place
Molly Langton

Memorial Park Middle School

Together

Alone you are strong, but together we're stronger.

Alone you are good, but together we're better.

Alone you are loud, but together we're louder.

Alone you stand tall, but together we're taller.

And no matter what happens,

I know we'll always be friends together.

Sixth Grade-Honorable Mention
Ariela Dawson

Memorial Park Middle School

Bacon

Bacon-my best friend.

I look in the fridge

It's always there for me

Toss it in the microwave

Watch it sizzle.

Smell the meatiness

Bacon lies on the plate,

Waiting for me to eat him.

Then he hops in my mouth

And rides down the waterslide.

Yum!

That's What Friends Are For

Friendship is like a tree,
Changing in the seasons,
Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter,

Friendship is like a tree,
Sprouting in the Spring,
Fresh and new and tender too,
Growing together as we grow too,

Friendship is like a tree,
Swaying in the Summer,
Not new or old and secrets told,
Growing taller and much stronger,

Friendship is like a tree,
Changing in the Fall,
Brightly colored, Standing tall,
Standing together as the leaves fall,

Friendship is like a tree,
Shivering in the Winter,
No leaves at all still standing tall,
Growing old together,

No matter the season,
We don't need a reason,
To always be together in due season.

She thought it couldn't get any
worse.

She'd cry to her the more it
hurt.

But oh, it does as night awaits
screams are heard of doors and
hits.

It's just a bruise but it still
scars.

She still had her but she
was fading

deeper

and

dee

pe

r until she

blurs

The blur was gone but all she
knew

was her friend was there
through light and dark, helped her
through her toughest times, pieced
together right and wrong and still
considers they're stuck together

even though one is

already

gone.

Friends are...

Friends are the people you go to for help.

Friends are the light at the end of a dark hallway.

Friends are specially made for you.

Friends are secret keepers.

Friends are story tellers and fun time havers.

Friends are the people you bring along just for the ride.

Friends are me and you and all people that are nice and have someone to share everything with.

Friends are the people you put your trust into.

Friends are the people you put before yourself.

They're the people who support you in a time of personal doubt or hardship.

What are friends for?

Listening to you

Loving you,

Being there for you,

Supporting you,

Even when you know you're wrong.

Helping you get back on the path,

When you've wandered into the woods.

Seventh Grade-Honorable Mention
Arayana Chaffin

Central Lutheran School

I Hope You Find Someone...

I hope you find someone who lets you be you.
Is as crazy as you are,
Treats you like a diamond,
Lifts you up when you are sad.
Will let you tell them anything,
You feel like you can trust,
Helps you through the pain,
Will give you advice when you need it,
Will be open, and tell you how they feel,
Will go through fire to save you,
Let you obsess over things you love,
I hope you find someone who would take a *bullet* for you.
Because those are things that a true friend would do.

Seventh Grade-Honorable Mention
Nariyah Mendez

Concordia Lutheran School

BEST FRIENDS!

I GOT YOUR BACK, YOU GOT MINE,
I'LL HELP YOU OUT, ANYTIME.
TO SEE YOU HURT, TO SEE YOU CRY,
MAKES ME WEEP, AND WANNA DIE.
AND IF YOU AGREE TO NEVER FIGHT,
IT WOULDN'T MATTER, WHO'S WRONG OR RIGHT.
IF A BROKEN HEART, NEEDS A MEND,
I'LL BE RIGHT THERE, TILL THE END.
IF YOUR CHEEKS ARE WET, FROM DROPS OF TEARS,
DON'T WORRY, LET GO OF YOUR FEARS.
HAND IN HAND, LOVE IS SENT.
WE'LL BE BESTIES...TILL THE END!!!

I'm falling into black.

Flailing, gripping the emptiness. Feelings of hope,

Coursing through my veins.

All direction is completely lost.

Rock bottom rising up,

Its ghostly fingers reaching out.

A flicker in the distance,

Catches my eye.

The light grows brighter,

My falling stops,

Inches from the bottom.

Blinding me until a person appears,

Steady hands grab my own,

And pull me into light.

The world around is colorful.

Full of happiness, and excitement.

Darkness is no longer in sight.

A glowing figure stares,

Why have they saved me?

A smile appeared,

Gently she spoke,

"That's what friends are for."

“That’s What Friends Are For.”

Laughing, tricks, and singing, too.

These are some things we will do.

We watch movies and T.V.

We decide which ones we’ll see.

Cheer me up when I’m feeling down.

And I’ll make sure you never frown.

Inside jokes and gossip, too.

None of these make me feel blue.

Because that’s what friends are for.

We’ll fight the bullies side by side.

Or maybe we’ll just run and hide.

We’ll help each other when we’re old.

When we’re young we keep a hold.

On the other’s mind each day.

Give the other our own say.

On our projects, which we’ll share.

Maybe our grade will be fair.

Because that’s what friends are for.

Call each other when we’re sick.

Make sure their dance moves are real slick.

Maybe we’ll have a day out.

Unless the other’s parents shout.

In any contest we’ll give them quite a cheer.

We know that they will hear.

We’ll laugh, and sing, and dance, and play.

Stay by them every day.

Because that’s what friends are for.

That's What Friends are For

Do you remember the night,
with our blankets so tight.
As we walked up the hill,
with not a light in sight.

Or our long facetime calls,
hoping our secrets won't go through the walls.
But we laughed so hard,
you could hear us in the halls.

When we would watch our favorite t.v. shows,
trying to cover up our frozen toes.
Stuffing our faces,
Hoping the night won't end with my bros.

I cannot wait for what the future may hold,
For when these memories unfold.
I will jump for joy,
Even when I'm old.

Eighth Grade-Honorable Mention
Morgan Aldrich

She Is

She's beautiful and strong
Yet she feels she does not belong

She's broken and hurt
And she still drags herself out of the dirt

I wish she could see,
The beauty, she sees in me

Through everything and more
She is still the one I adore
Because that, is what friends are for.

A Friend in Need

My knuckles glare up at me
Like white dice, awaiting the next
Roll to send them tumbling and clattering
Until only blind pips look out.

My hands strangle

The whispering

Rust on the sagging rail.

Things will be better

When this is over. No more

Insulting murmurs or hurtful lies,

No more

Stinging remarks or serrated words.

With a blistering sunset in its throat,

The sky chokes, its contorted face

Mottled, flaming, engorged.

Tires slashed,

Dragged the bike four miles home.

My finger nails prick into my palms

As I climb over

The railing, trembling.

The rain runs rouge,

Steals its tint from the sky.

In the broken-tiled school bathroom,

Three merciless sets of fists. I,

In an unconscious heap,

Freed from the pain.

Over the bridge's concrete
Barrier, there are but forty feet and a swift
River to oblivion.
At home. Late for dinner.
The steel buckle
In dad's hand,
Snakes back to strike again.
Suddenly, a hand
Pulls me back.
It's the boy I've seen pushed
Aside in the hallways,
Locked in a supply room,
Screamed profanities at. The same boy who
Stood up for me
Last week on the basketball court,
Took punches for me so I could escape.
In his eyes, I see
No respite in death.
In his smile, I feel
A flicker of hope.
"Call me 'friend,'" he calmly says.
For now, words are not needed
As we walk down the street, away
From the bridge.

Friends

She is a warm house on a cold snowy day

She is the wilderness where we love to play

She is a big fort, both welcoming and nice

She is a very funny clown in a big circus tent

She is a book, quiet yet full of feeling

She is a king size candy bar, tall and sweet

She is a whisper sharing secrets all night

She is Christmas day, full of surprise

She is a cell phone, loud and soft

She is the big present you always look forward to

She is my very best friend

What friends are for

Friends are for clowning around in your basement until 4 in the morning.

Friends are for going on late night trips to the gas station to get a couple energy drinks and chips.

Friends are for buying balloons and party hats to make the hangout more exciting.

Friends are for going to the movies and being way too loud in the back row.

Friends are for going to Walmart and filling a cart full of things we don't need, and leave it in the middle
of the shoe department.

Friends are for playing mini golf and telling each other they're going to miss.

Friends are for writing on each other's face when someone falls asleep.

Friends are for going to the campground and speeding around in the golf cart.

Friends are for going to a haunted house, and telling all the actors that you're going to fight them after

they scare you.

Friends are for texting each other when you are in the same room, just to make things more funny.

Friends are for watching "The Cat in the Hat" and falling asleep 30 minutes in.

Friends are for a lot of things.

Ninth Grade-Honorable Mention
Daniesha Mikera Houston

Ward Education Center

That's what friends are for

Giving good advice & help doing chores
That's what friends are for

When there's nothing to do & you get bored
That's what friends are for

When you've acted up in school & you know
when you get home your butt's gonna
be sore
That's what friends are for

When you have low self-esteem but you,
Your friends adore
That's what friends are for

When you talk back & get in trouble
And your mom says you're grounded
& busts your bubble
That's what friends are for

When your heart's broke & when
being bullied & you have strep throat
That's what friends are for

When you like hoops cause that's your
Sport & you need more support
That's what friends are for
When you got love but need more
That's what friends are for

You're always there & you care
You always smile & would walk a mile
You're the apple of my eye &
Make me feel better when I cry
When I pick a fight you're on

My side wrong or right
I love you, I love you to, to the core
Because that's what friends are for

Tenth Grade-1st Place
Zoe Moore

Homestead High School

friend

my hollow boned beloved friend sometimes forgets she knows how to fly
tongue twisted by frequented vocabulary, both arms embracing the known and sturdy
sometimes she forgets her matrimony with discovery
and i from my window tap out a fragile whisper of recovery and hope it reaches her side of the glass
sometimes her symphony is too full of a brass cacophony that accompanies a too complete
dependency
on the safety of the ground
sometimes she forgets her soul has wings, cannot be bound
sometimes she forgets she is not trapped
and i with two armfuls of hope and daffodils remind her of how able she is to be unmapped
my hollow boned beloved friend sometimes forgets she knows how to fly
to leave her roots and branches and connect the dots of the drunken sky
and when her feet have sunken too deeply into earth i gently drop the needle on the record of her worth
and pray the music fully reminisce on how limitless she truly is
her tender feet designed for flutter rather than settlement, i hope to impart the sentiment that she is
boundlessly independent and yet not vacant
those hollow bones a blatant emblem of her freedom
when she forgets her own momentum i softly kiss her palms and plant them in the direction of the sun
love, the force that makes our spirits run
my hollow boned beloved friend sometimes forgets she knows how to fly
and in her hair i scatter glitter and the letters that form the words "just try"
and when i see her move away from an affinity for close proximity to the earthly,
to the certainty, to the ground
when i see the sky surround her
when i see flight again has found her
i am at peace from my place in her mosaic of amor
my hollow boned beloved friend
i am here to help you soar

John Young Preparatory High School

end.

New Haven High School

Strangers to Friends

Everybody is somebody to somebody
you believe it or not

Somebody you hardly know is your
biggest supporter

I tried to thank her but she said
that's what friends are for

Tenth Grade-Honorable Mention
Jessica Strickler

North Side High School

WHAT ARE FRIENDS FOR

Friends are like peas in a pod; they are never too far away.

They are like a wolf pack; they always have your back.

Friends are like a diary; they always keep your secrets.

Friends are like a lion; they will protect with all they can.

They are like the sun; they always brighten up your day.

Friends are like a monkey; they always make you laugh.

Friends don't care what you look like; they love you just the way you are.

A group of friends are like a family; they always act like brothers or sisters.

And that's what friends are for!

Eleventh Grade-1st Place
Marco Hernandez

North Side High School

Friendships

Friends are people you trust
like many people trust this one friend
this one friend they can trust
with even the most delicate flower
like a flower that grew under sand
the sand was colored with a rich sandy color brown.

Friendships are like a land
a flat foundation that was worked on
and built with care and joy.

Some friends will touch your life along the way
but only a few will touch your heart.

A true friend doesn't necessarily have to be measured by time and distance.

Eleventh Grade-2nd Place
Saleh Ali

North Side High School

Real Friends

Real friends stay together till the end,
They are like two parallel lines that can't bend.

They love each other forever,
They always spend time together.
They help each other and save the day,

They're for others to stay.
They help you when you fall,
Real friends are best of all.

What are friends for

Everyone has a friend
Some knew them for a really long time, or a few years
So what do friends mean to you
I'm going to tell you, what friends are for
Someone being by your side. You may fight,
But you know in your heart that isn't right
Someday that you will miss them
when they have gone away.
They are a big part of your life
They have been by your side from good and bad days.
Friends are worth more than gold and
You know you can never replace them.
Friends can pick you up and wipe your tears away.
friendships are like diamonds true and rare
and there is nothing more precious than having a true friend.
Friends can turn your darkness into light
Friends can fill your heart with love
They are gift from god from above.
There are many people in the world
But there is only one of you.

Eleventh Grade-Honorable Mention
Libni Sedano

South Side High School

Kindergarten,
A time when making friends was the easiest thing to make.
All you had to do was walk up to a kid and say "Hi, want to be my friend?"
And just like that,
You two have become the best of friends.

Now that time has passed
It seems harder to find that one true friend,
But when you do find that friend,
You want them to be in your life forever.
You want them to be there when you need them
Because that's what friends are for.

Friends are the best things to have in life
They make you laugh,
They make you cry,
They bring out the best in you.
Because that's what friends are for.

Sure they make you mad at times for little things that they do,
But the important thing is that you forgive them
Because life keeps going on,
And you never know what your life will be like without your best friend.

Friends always have your back
No matter what
Whenever you're feeling down, they'll be there to cheer you up
You create memories with them that will last a lifetime
Always remember who your friends are
They're always there for you, and you should be there for them
In the good times and in the bad times
Because that's what friends are for

Twelfth Grade-1st Place
Flynn Grayson Catey

North Side High School

What are Friends for

Friends are not going to lie on or tell on you
they are going to have your back during the good times
and the bad times even then
but most of all
friends are friends
they're freakin'awesome, man.

Twelfth Grade-2nd Place
Jacqueline Bush

North Side High School

That's what friends are for

Friends are very protective of you to make sure you
don't get hurt

Friends can be like brothers and sisters to you
Friends love you as you are, they don't care what you
look like

Friends can make you smile when you are upset
A friend is someone we turn to when we are down

Friends are always there when you need them
Some friends can pick you up when you are sad

Friends can be your boyfriend or girlfriend
Friends are always there no matter what the
situation is

Friends can be funny and crazy

You might not like them at first then you start
getting to know them, you like them

That's what friends are for

Twelfth Grade-3rd Place
John Houser

North Side High School

Friendship

Friends are people who like to always hang out all the time.

A friend is a person who will always believe no matter what.

Friends are people who will always want to hang out and that will want to always believe

Friendship is a person who always comes to you for help.

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